

MARKEING AND HANDLING SPUDS

United States Has Two Definite Potato Crops Every Year—Eight Methods of Selling

In order that the present large losses of potatoes may be eliminated and that conditions in the potato-growing industry may be bettered in general, growers should exercise more care in digging and handling the tubers, should work toward the establishment and strict observance of grades, and should carefully study marketing conditions. This is the advice of specialists of the Office of Markets and Rural Organizations of the United States department of agriculture, in a recent publication "Farmers' Bulletin 753, "Commercial Handling, Grading and Marketing of Potatoes."

Early and Late Potatoes
There are two definite crops of potatoes in this country each year: The southern early, or "new" potatoes, which are perishable, and the northern late potatoes, which are only semi-perishable. The treatment of these crops must differ considerably. In the south digging begins in Florida, Texas and southern Louisiana in May and is done mostly by forks and plows. In some of the hotter sections it has been found advisable to plow up the potatoes in the late evening and pick them early the following morning. Picking into rectangular, open-slatted crates, has been found most satisfactory. The potatoes should not be hauled loose in wagons, since such treatment may bruise them seriously. For shipment, the southern potatoes are packed in hampers and double-headed barrels in Florida, and in barrels with burlap covers in other states along the Atlantic coast. In Texas sacks are used.

Grading for the southern potato crop has been rather extensively adopted, with good results, the graded potatoes bringing better prices. Mechanical graders are used in some sections.

The marketing of the southern crop is effected largely through cash buyers at shipping points. Shipments are also made through distribution and on consignment to agencies in distant markets. In some sections it was found, co-operative associations of growers handle the marketing, achieving successful results. One of the largest of such associations operates along the eastern shore of Virginia. This association sold over six million dollars' worth of potatoes in 1914. This organization, like others of its kind, grades strictly and makes use of definite brands for the best grades of potatoes. It insists that the potatoes bearing its brand shall be bright, free from second-growth, disease, and other defects. Scabby, worm-eaten, or sunburnt potatoes are barred. Associations operating on the same general plan exist in most of the southern states.

The Northern Potato Crop
Northern, or late potatoes, are dug in August and September. Forks are used to a certain extent for digging this crop, but most of the acreage is dug by plows and digging machines. For the successful use of the latter, soil conditions must be good. Under favorable conditions the use of such machines has been found profitable. There is much loss from bruising potatoes in all types of digging. Deep plowing with plows and machines should eliminate most of such losses.

Picking in the north is mostly by hand, but some combination digging and picking machines are in use. If the potatoes are to be graded as picked, growers should carefully instruct pickers in the work, since the inclusion of a few diseased, cut, or defective potatoes is sufficient to discount an entire shipment, the selling value being largely determined by the poorest tubers in the lot rather than the best. Even the less perishable northern crop may be injured by hauling from the field loose in wagons. This practice usually involves subsequent handling, often with shovels and scoops, which further bruises and potatoes. A good practice, say specialists of the department, is to pick the potatoes into open-slatted crates and haul the filled receptacles to storage or grading houses or to cars.

Marketing
Marketing conditions in the north differ widely from those in the south, since about three-fourths of the crop is stored. Local buyers, warehousemen, and distributors are the chief factors in marketing the northern crop. The bulletin already mentioned lists of eight methods of selling that growers may adopt. They are: In the field, for cash by the load at the car, to cash traveling buyers in carlots, to local warehousemen, through distributors, by wire, on consignment to a broker or merchant, or through co-operative marketing organizations. The bulletin also discusses the outlets for distributors and methods of railway billing. Copies of Farmers' Bulletin No. 753 may be had free on application to the United States department of agriculture so long as the department's supply lasts.

VALUABLE POTATO BULLETIN CAN BE SECURED FREE

"Commercial Handling, Grading, and Marketing of Potatoes." Forty pages, illustrated. This was written by the office of Markets and Rural Organization of the United States Department of Agriculture, and was published in December, 1916. A free copy can be secured by addressing the Office of Markets and Rural Organization, Washington, D. C., and asking for Farmers' Bulletin 753.

This is an important and valuable bulletin, full of information that will insure profits for every potato grower. It is of special value to commercial growers and shippers, who are interested in the most desirable methods used in handling and marketing the crop. If you have not already

ready procure this bulletin, write for it at once.

Other Valuable Free Bulletins
"Good Seed Potatoes and How to Produce them." Farmers' Bulletin No. 533. Apply to Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.
"Potato Culture." Farmers' Bulletin No. 35. Apply to Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.
"Potato Pointers." Press Bulletin No. 40. Apply to Agricultural Experiment Station, Lincoln, Neb.
"Potatoes." Bulletin No. 86. Apply to the Wyoming Experiment Station, Laramie, Wyo.
"Selection of Seed in Potato Growing." Circular No. 81. Apply to the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, Urbana, Ill.
"Nebraska Boys' Potato Clubs Growing Potatoes." Extension Bulletin No. 12. Apply to University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.
"Identification of Potato Varieties." Extension Bulletin No. 20. Apply to Agricultural College, Ames, Ia.

MARKET SERVICE MADE THOUSANDS

Box Butte County Farmers Claim that Government Bulletin Service Made Them \$10,000

Nebraska is fast becoming noted for its fine quality of potatoes, and also for the quantity of potatoes raised. Especially is this true of western Nebraska and Box Butte county in particular. There is a great and growing demand for the Box Butte county potatoes, more so than for potatoes grown on irrigated land. It is stated that irrigated potatoes do not keep as well as do those grown in Box Butte county because the percentage of moisture in them allows them to commence to decay and rot sooner.

Valuable Information
The raising of potatoes has become so important in western Nebraska that the Office of Markets and Rural Organizations of the United States Department of Agriculture this year maintained an office in Alliance with an expert in charge to give free information to potato growers. This information consisted of a daily free potato bulletin and gave the buying prices at shipping points, reports from all principal growing points, Nebraska carlot shipments for each day, dividing them into dry land and irrigated sections, Nebraska diversions for each day, together with telegraphic reports from the large markets such as Kansas City, Chicago, Sioux City, Omaha, Des Moines, St. Paul, Denver, St. Louis, Dallas, Oklahoma City, Houston, and other information of value to the grower and seller.

Testimonials Received
A. E. Prugh, the representative of the federal government who was stationed in Alliance and who maintained an office with County Agent Seidell at the court house, toward the close of the selling season asked those who desired to receive the bulletin next year to fill out a form giving their opinion of the value of this service. Testimonials as to the value of the potato market news service poured into the Alliance office in great numbers.

Five Hundred Farmers Report
More than five hundred farmers report that they have been benefited to the extent of 25 to 50 cents a bushel on the selling price of their potatoes. The daily market news bulletins were printed and distributed from September 21 to November 4, during which time the price offered for potatoes by local buyers in western Nebraska advanced from 60 cents a bushel to \$1.10, despite a decline in the central markets.

A Herald reporter was privileged to look over the reports sent in by growers and gleaned from the total a few of the expressions as to the value of the market news service.

One grower says, "The market news service keeps the buyers from slipping up on the blind side of us farmers."

Another says, "The buyers used to tell us the market—now we tell the buyers."

Still another says, "We had the satisfaction of knowing what we ought to get, or something near it."

As a buyer, I knew what price to offer. As a seller I knew what price to ask."

"I think I would have sold six cars at 70 cents instead of getting 90 cents, \$1.10 and \$1.20 for them."

"By receiving this report I got 30 per cent more for my potatoes."

As secretary and treasurer of the Farmers' Union I estimate the value to the farmers here will reach into the thousands of dollars this fall alone."

"I have received a better price, with no increase to the consumer."

There were any number of expressions received along the same line, which goes to show that the growers appreciate what Uncle Sam is doing for them and desire to receive this service again next year.

Prugh Knows His Business
A. E. Prugh, who was in charge of the Alliance Office of Markets, is a man thoroughly experienced in the work. He opened the permanent branch of the Office of Markets in Kansas City last spring and had charge of that office from March until August when he came to Alliance to establish the market news service for the benefit of western Nebraska potato growers. From Alliance he went to Washington, D. C., to report to the Office of Markets and Rural Organization for further work.

The market news service was sent free to 1936 subscribers each day. This number was divided up among the towns in the following manner:

Mailing List of Potato Bulletin
Alliance 188
Hemphill 171
Marple 13
Canton 15
Dunlap 7
Curly 8
Rushville 129
Clinton 29
Billing 4

Albany	5	quested will receive the bulletin if the branch office of markets is opened again:
Peters	4	
White Clay	8	
Gordon	137	
Grayson	93	
Hay Springs	55	
Kimball	11	
Dix	11	
Bushnell	46	
Valentine	15	
Kilgore	15	
Harmony	14	
Crookston	10	
Nenzel	1	
Cody	1	
Merriman	1	
Wood Lake	114	
Ainsworth	26	
Johnston	16	
Long Pine	2	
Raven	2	
Pike	2	
Midvale	2	
Altai	2	
Sunnyside	1	
Mary	1	
Enderslake	1	
Crawford	49	
Wolffington	2	
Hough	13	
Esther	20	
Pepper Creek	3	
Pine Ridge	9	
Whitney	13	
Chadron	34	
Marland	51	
Belmont	51	
Glen	5	
Andrews	5	
Harrison	17	
Van Tassel, Wyo	4	
Lander, Wyo	3	
Moorecroft, Wyo	3	
Manville, Wyo	3	
Hudson, Wyo	1	
Lost Springs, Wyo	2	
Lusk, Wyo	2	
Bell Fourche, S. D.	5	
Newell, S. D.	1	
Burke, S. D.	1	
Ardmore, S. D.	1	
St. Onge, S. D.	1	
Colome, S. D.	3	
Bonesteel, S. D.	1	
Pine Ridge, S. D.	1	
St. Charles, S. D.	1	
Winner, S. D.	1	
Idaho Falls, Idaho	1	
Atkinson	1	
Mariaville	1	
Hubbard	1	
Norrmann	1	
Horsefoot	1	
Kirkwood	1	
O'Neill	1	
Bassett	1	
Chambers	1	
Dorsey	1	
Ewing	1	
Emmet	1	
Page	1	
Hilton	1	
Hire	1	
Battle Creek	1	
Inman	1	
Riverview	1	
Moomaw	1	
Dakota City	1	
Beaver Crossing	1	
Newport	1	
Edgar	1	
Schill	1	
Manchester	12	
Franklin	27	
Bayard	12	
Bridgeport	75	
Morrill	24	
Mitchell	5	
Gering	5	
Minatare	51	
Scottsbluff	14	
Chappell	30	
Dalton	7	
Sidney	3	
Sexton	12	
Potter	9	
Broadwater	6	
Redington	4	
Lynn	3	
Colyer	5	
Angora	5	
Sutherland	1	
Keystone	1	
Lewellen	1	
Arapahoe	1	
Ogallala	1	
Paxon	1	
Lodgepole	1	
Torrington	1	
Bigspring	1	
Onkosh	1	
Henry	1	
Montevista, Colo.	1	
Yockey	1	
McGrew	1	
Grand Junction, Colo.	1	
Northport	1	
Normal	1	
Lincoln	20	
College View	1	
Bethany	1	
Broken Bow	1	
Ravenna	1	
Kansas City, Mo.	1	
Dunlap	1	
Elm Creek	1	
Grand Island	1	
Washington, D. C.	1	
Moorehead, Minn.	1	
Irving, Kan.	1	
Brewster	1	
Nebraska City	1	
Sutton	1	
South Auburn	1	
Mullen	1	
Crest	1	
Beatrice	1	
Hastings	1	
Platts	1	
Blair	1	
Mayflower	1	
Mead	1	
Omaha	1	
Walthill	1	
Seward	1	
Norfolk	1	
Chicago, Ill.	1	
Laclede, Mo.	1	
Linneus, Mo.	1	
Alledo, Ill.	1	
Exeter	1	
Holdrege	1	
Berwyn	1	
North Platte	1	
Ashby	1	
Plainview	1	
Wallace	1	
Brookfield, Mo.	1	
Bradshaw	1	
Wetleetha, Okla.	1	
Ulysses	1	
TOTAL	1936	

Following is the mailing list by counties, states, etc., and the percentage of those in each section who were interested enough to answer the questionnaire giving their opinion of the service and requesting the bulletin next year. Those who have re-

Miscellaneous states	24	66
Miscellaneous Nebraska	175	64
South Dakota	35	46
Sioux county	67	45
Morrill county	160	40
Scotts Bluff county	167	36
Brown county	232	32
Dawes county	69	30
Butte county	21	30
Kimball county	414	29
Wyoming	104	26
Sheridan county	63	22
Cheyenne county	36	
Total, 1936; average 36.		

ADDITIONAL LOCALS

Mrs. Lloyd Johnson was hostess at a 6 o'clock dinner Monday evening in compliment to Miss Noyes.

Mrs. George A. Heilman was called to Coalmont, Colo., Sunday noon by a message announcing the serious illness of her mother, Mrs. J. M. Purdy.

George D. Darling is making an interesting announcement in this issue of The Herald. The "White" progressive club is being organized on a scientific, elastic and economical purchasing plan. The plan contemplates the putting into your home of one of the famous "White" rotary sewing machines and is well worth investigation. The person of limited income is given an opportunity to own and use his or her choice of any of the many different models of this famous sewing machine. Read the announcement this week and watch The Herald next week for the opening date.

Do you like this issue of The Herald? Have you read every one of the twenty-four pages in the three sections of eight pages each? If you do and if you have, pass the paper on to your neighbor and tell him to subscribe if not already a subscriber.

N. A. McCorkle and Thomas Kelly left Sunday morning for Deadwood to spend a few days visiting friends.

E. A. Strand and F. White left Tuesday for Billings, Mont., for a short visit.

John Havlik went to Crawford Sunday to spend a few days visiting with friends.

Mrs. M. E. Tash of Thayer, Iowa, arrived Tuesday for a visit with her son, Ira E. Tash, and family.

Mrs. George Ash and daughter of Billings, Mont., are visiting in Alliance this week.

T. P. Rolfson made a business trip to Lakeside Tuesday.

Mrs. George Eckhart and son are visiting with her parents at Ravenna this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Vern Roberts of Mt. Ayers arrived Tuesday for a visit with her sister, Mrs. Danny Lyons.

Mrs. Frank Given left Saturday for Lincoln and McCook for a short visit with relatives.

WAR VETERANS BURIED IN ALLIANCE CEMETARIES

Forty-six war veterans are buried in Greenwood cemetery in Alliance. Of this number 42 are Union veterans of the Civil war, 2 are Confederate veterans, 2 are Spanish-American war veterans, and 2 were former members of the United States navy. Two are buried in the Catholic cemetery. The list follows:

Abraham Conklin, Co. B, 134th N. Y. Inf.; Joseph Reynolds, Co. F, 28th Ill. Inf.; Frank Bauer, 11th Ill. Cav.; Henry W. Applegarth, Co. G, 3rd Minn. Inf.; Chas. G. Schofield, Co. A, 5th Iowa Cav.; Isaac Willard, Co. D, 63rd Ill. Inf.; Peter Muntz, Co. F, 12th Ill. Cav.; John Kinney, Co. B, 9th Ky. Inf.; James H. May, Co. B, 27th Ia. Inf.; John S. Warner, Co. H, 12th Penn. Cav.; Samuel McCutchen, Co. F, 11th Penn. Inf.; Samuel Jesse, Co. D, 10th Ia. Inf.; Alex Hoffman, Co. A, 43rd Ia. Inf.; Myron Tuttle, Co. D, 2nd Col. Cav.; Louis J. Mackey, Co. E, 116 Ill. Inf.; Ansel F. Payne, Co. F, 9th Ind. Inf.; David G. Blair, Co. K, 169 Penn. Inf.; Henry C. Richards, Co. B, 14th Mo. Inf.; John Hannah, Co. B, 15th Ia. Inf.; John E. White, Co. K, 86th Ill. Inf.; Nathan Dye, Co. K, 175 Ohio Inf.; John Martin, Co. K, 86 Ill. Inf.; Frank Martin, Co. F, 76 Ill. Inf.; Henry H. Miller, Co. E, 11th Penn. Inf.; Frank P. Stephens, Co. F, 11th N. H. Inf.; Wm. H. Hubble, Co. B, 9th Ill. Cav.; Abel Hill, Co. K, 2nd Neb. Cav.; James H. Benedict, Co. H, 74th Ind. Inf.; Wm. Mumper, Co. K, 55th Penn. Inf.; Simon Baumgardner, Co. B, 165th Penn. Inf.; Absolom Shanks; Robert Shipley; Raymond D. Gutgesel; D. C. Douglas; Col. Jennings; Wm. R. Akers; Andrew Froshlee; Joseph Barkhurst; Wm. Shinn and Alex Hill are buried in the Catholic cemetery.
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Confederate Soldiers
J. J. Phillips and Martin Foster.

Spanish-American War
George Downing, Co. E, 2nd Neb. Inf.; and Allan Hicks.
United States Navy
Ward V. Kennedy and Peter Tracy.

ASSIGNMENT OF ALLIANCE TEACHERS

Superintendent of City Schools W. R. Pate Announces Assignment of Teachers for Next Year

Superintendent W. R. Pate of the Alliance city schools announces the following assignment of teachers for the coming school year of 1917-18:

Emerson School	Miss McHugh.
Eighth grade and principal—	Miss McHugh.
Seventh grade—	Miss Walter.
Sixth grade—	Miss Engle.
Fifth grade—	Miss Cutkosky.
Fourth grade—	Miss Hledik.
Third grade—	Miss Robertson.
Second grade—	Miss Soper.
First grade—	Miss Terry.
Kindergarten—	Miss Peters.
Central School	
Eighth grade and principal—	Mr. Burns.
Seventh grade—	Miss Sheridan.
Sixth grade—	Miss Anderson.
Fifth grade—	Miss Abbott.
Fourth grade—	Hazel Johnson.
Third grade—	Laura Johnston.
Second grade—	Miss Crocker.
First and second grades—	Miss Worley.
First grade—	Miss Scott.
Kindergarten—	Miss Peters.
High School	
Superintendent city schools—	W. R. Pate.
Principal high school—	T. R. Crawford.
Domestic science—	Miss Canfield.
Commercial department—	Bertha Wilson.
Language—	Mary Wilson.
English—	A. P. Stockdale.
Mathematics—	Miss Read.
Normal Training—	Miss Wilcox.

WHEELER SELLS WESTERN HOTEL TO THREE FORKS MAN

A. B. Wheeler on Saturday sold the Western hotel, including equipment and good will, to William Broderick of Three Forks, Wyo. The new owner takes possession tomorrow, June 1. Mr. Wheeler will continue to operate the Nebraska House and the Wells property.

LIEUT. PHIPPS OF FORT ROBINSON VISITS ALLIANCE

Lieutenant G. A. Phipps, Co. "I", Fourth Nebraska, spent Memorial day in Alliance attending the exercises and visiting with Captain Jack Miller and other friends. Lieutenant Phipps expressed himself as being well pleased with the recognition that western Nebraska is getting at this section of the state he feels proud of the record of such men as Hon. Earl Mallory and Hon. Lloyd Thomas of this city. He says that he feels that it is through the selection of such men for representatives of this section that western Nebraska is coming into her own. The energetic work of Captain Miller and the members of Company G in getting such a splendid organization perfected was commended by the lieutenant.

Lieutenant Phipps is one of the live wires of western Nebraska. He is a newspaper man and until going into the service ran the Gordon Journal at Ogden. Lieutenant Phipps at present is stationed at Fort Robinson.

COLORADO MEN GIVEN MAXIMUM UNDER LAW

The maximum sentence was given five gentlemen of color by Judge Tash in county court Saturday morning. The men had been engaged in the game of shooting dice. The charge of gambling was pushed rather than that of bootlegging, because the former was more easily proven and the penalty is the same for either offense. Judge Tash stated that he did not give the maximum penalty because the men were colored, but because he was determined that the whiskey element should no longer rule in Box Butte county. He stated that white men will get the benefit of the law in the same proportion as the black man.

STATE COUNCIL SAYS TO BUY MACHINERY

Lincoln, Neb., May 29.—The Nebraska council of defense today issued a warning to Nebraska farmers to lay in their farm machinery early in order to take care of the greatly increased acreage of corn and other crops.

The farmers are also urged to plan their fall acreage of wheat.

Here is the statement: On account of the widely extended winter killing of alfalfa in Nebraska it doubtless will be necessary to use a large acreage of corn for fodder this year and it is highly important that proper provisions be made for the additional harvesting machinery

that will be needed to take care of it. Owing to the rushed conditions obtaining in the manufacturing plants throughout the country and the extra demand for material that is used in the construction of farm machinery the implement manufacturers and dealers are urging that orders for corn binders and other necessary machinery be placed as early as possible.

It is also very imperative that a large acreage of winter wheat be sown next fall and the experience of the past winter has again proven the great advisability of seeding winter wheat in corn stocks with the one-horse drill. Those contemplating seeding winter wheat in this manner are very urgently requested to see to it that the drill is on hand at the time it is needed. Farmers should begin now to plan for their winter wheat acreage, to be seeded next fall, and to make provision for the machinery needed to seed the crop in the best manner possible.

MORE TRAINED MEN AND WOMEN NEEDED

An urgent appeal to pupils to remain in high school next fall as a patriotic duty has been issued by Dr. P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education. Dr. Claxton points out that there are in the high schools of the United States this year more than one and one-half millions of boys and girls, and somewhat more than 200,000 of them will graduate this month and next. In an ordinary year 90,000 or more of these would next fall enter college, normal school or technical school to be prepared for such service to society, state and nation as can be rendered only by those who have received education beyond that which the high schools can give. He says, "Many college presidents and others fear that on account of our entrance into the war few boys and girls will enter college next fall and that the total college attendance will be very small. The number ought, however, to be much larger than usual."

"The more mature young men are, the more serviceable they are in the army. The selective draft will take only those between twenty-one and thirty. In the total of 60,000,000 people of productive age in the United States the 350,000 students in colleges and normal schools and technical and vocational schools of high grade constitute only about one-half of one per cent. More than half of these live in cities and cannot be employed in agricultural production except as a few of them may find work on the farms during the summer. Their going to college will not lower the productive capacity of the country as a whole in any appreciable degree. The colleges, normal schools, and technical schools will all be open with undiminished income from public funds and endowments, and the expense of their maintenance will continue. It is quite probable that many of the older students will not return next fall and the higher classes will be smaller than usual. The graduates from the high schools should see to it that the lower classes more than make up for this deficiency."

COMPANY G RECEIVES OFFICIAL RECOGNITION

Capt. J. B. Miller of Co. G, Fourth Nebraska, received the following telegram from Adjutant General Hall on Monday morning: "Official federal recognition hereby granted Company G, Alliance, Neb." Adj. Gen. Hall sent the message following receipt of a similar one from the war department at Washington. Captain Miller enlisted nine new recruits at Bayard Sunday. The total enlistment is now 103.

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS IN ALLIANCE THIS WEEK

Prof. R. F. Howard and Prof. W. W. Burr, heads of the horticultural and agronomy departments, of the College of Agriculture, will arrive in Alliance either Saturday or Sunday to conduct tuber unit and hill selection work on the best strains of Box Butte Red Triumph and Early Ohio potatoes.

The purpose of this work is to develop by selection and field observation high yielding and disease free strains of Box Butte potatoes which later can be placed in the hands of growers of the county. This will ultimately tend to rejuvenate all qualities, thus making the industry more profitable and will later permit later standardization for seed and market trades.

NOTE TO CONDUCT EXPERIMENTAL WORK

Dr. Geo. K. Link of the Agricultural Botany department of the college of agriculture is expected to arrive in Alliance from the Scottsbluff sub-station tonight to conduct experimental work in co-operation with the county agent and the Box Butte County Farm Bureau on the control of Fusarium Wilt, a common disease of potatoes. Dr. Link will remain here until two 1,400-hill plots of potatoes are planted under his direction and then will go to Dawes and Sheridan counties to conduct similar work. The state will buy the potatoes at the market price from the grower who contracts to cultivate the spuds under instruction from the college.